

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

FACT SHEET

AUTHORIZATION FOR ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2005 AND 2006 URBAN AREAS SECURITY INITIATIVE GRANT FUNDS (ALL SUPERVISORAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

REQUEST

Authorize the Director of Mental Health to accept the 2005 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant of \$10,000 from the City of Los Angeles for the maintenance of the Department of Mental Health's (DMH) Emergency Management System (EMS), a system to alert mental health emergency responders to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) incidents. The 2005 UASI grant was awarded by the Department of Homeland Security's Office for Domestic Preparedness to the City of Los Angeles for use in the Los Angeles Urban Area and will be fully expended by June 30, 2007.

Authorize the Director of Mental Health to accept the 2006 UASI grant of \$35,000 from the City of Los Angeles for the installation of a Satellite Television System for DMH's Emergency Operation Center (EOC). The 2006 UASI grant was awarded by the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Grants and Training to the City of Los Angeles for use in the Los Angeles/Long Beach Urban Area.

Delegate authority to the Director of Mental Health or his designee to take reasonable and necessary actions to effectuate the purposes of the grant, within the limits of the funding provided, including extensions to the grant term.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION

Board approval of the recommended actions will allow DMH to utilize the \$10,000 of the 2005 UASI grant funding for operational costs of the EMS. DMH originally requested this UASI grant to purchase the EMS, an emergency management software system, to be utilized by the DMH EOC to track and monitor the status of events and incidents related to WMD and to deploy staff. Due to delayed notification from the City of Los Angeles of the UASI grant award, EMS was purchased through DMH's 2005 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) award, which also funded 12 months of maintenance costs through December 31, 2006. DMH obtained an extension and authorization to apply the 2005 UASI grant award to the January 1, 2007 through June 30, 2007 maintenance costs of the EMS.

In addition, the 2006 UASI grant of \$35,000 will fund the installation of cabling and equipment for a Satellite Television System to provide EOC with the ability to receive information and continuous updates via televised news. This will enhance the

Department's ability to plan, develop, and implement an effective and timely response to hazardous incidents and events including fires, earthquakes, and terrorism. Additionally, public service announcements will be dispersed from the EOC to the media based on the information received.

BACKGROUND

The Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) was implemented in 2003 following the formation of Department of Homeland Security. Its mission is to enhance the ability of State, local and tribal governments to prepare for, prevent, and respond to terrorist attacks and other disasters. HSGP is a primary funding source for building and sustaining national preparedness capabilities. UASI is one of five (5) grant programs under HSGP. Their grants fund a range of preparedness activities, including planning organization, equipment purchase, training exercises, and management and administration costs.

Funding in the amount of \$10,000 from the 2005 UASI grant award will offset EMS server maintenance costs during the second half of Fiscal Year (FY) 2006-07. The EMS allows DMH first responders to access the Disaster Information System to monitor events and dispatch resources.

The 2006 UASI grant of \$35,000 will fund the installation of cabling and equipment for the Satellite Television System to provide EOC with the ability to receive information and continuous updates via televised news.

The Department has sufficient appropriation in its FY 2006-07 Adopted Budget to fund these projects; therefore, no budget adjustment is necessary.

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